GEOLOGY, MINES AND EXPLOSIVES

CHAPTER IX—GEOLOGY, MINES AND EXPLOSIVES.

(ix) Geology.

732. The estimated value of minerals produced in the State other than gold but including chromite, corundum, kaolin, manganese, asbestos, mica, ochres, soapstone, quartzite and ornamental stones, was Rs. 11,92,600 (Rs. 7,97,000). The total amount of royalty payable for the year was Rs. 59,630 Rs. (52,367). The total area covered by mining leases and prospecting licenses was 52,434 (84,535) acres. In addition, about 54 acres of land were held under licenses for quarrying ornamental stones. The number of mining leases, licenses and certificates for approval current during the year was 420 (438). The aggregate value of the various minerals which were supplied by the Department to the several industrial concerns was Rs. 35,853.

Mineral Survey and Prospecting.

733. Of the important discoveries of new mentioned occurrences during the year, the following may be mentioned:—

Asbestos in Idegondanahalli, Holenarsipur Taluk, Gopalpura, Mysore Taluk, Antarasante, Heggaddevankote Taluk, and Baichapura, Koratagere Taluk, the Cordierite near Ekrahalli Kamasandra, Bangarpet Taluk, Corundum in Tumkur and Kolar Districts, the Chromite in Nagavala, Mysore Taluk, Clays in Karehalli, Tumkur District, Feldspar in Kamasandram, and Thopanahalli, Bangarpet Taluk, Kankar near the 9th mile stone on the Mysore—T. Narsipur road, Kaolin within five-mile radius of Golhalli, Kyanite near Varuna, Mysore Taluk, the Magnesite in Nagavala, Mysore Taluk, Quartz near Mantikyatanhalli and Handanahalli, Mysore Taluk, Sillimanite near Kamasamudram, Bangarapet Taluk, Soapstone in many parts of Mysore and Hassan Districts, and Vermiculite, near Bommenahalli and Manikyapura in the Mysore Taluk.

Geophysical Survey.

734. As per programme, three taluks were selected for survey, one from each of the three Divisions. These surveys have furnished fresh information about the occurrence of economically important mineral deposits.

Geological Survey.

735. Electrical surveys for the location of sulphide ore bodies were continued in the Angaldhal and Kunchiganahal areas in the Chitaldrug District. The total length of lines laid out and measured out in these surveys aggregated

to 82,340 feet, the number of determinations booked being 4,252. The Geophysical Section of the Department was ordered to be integrated with the Geological Survey of India.

736. In the Chemical Laboratory, 111 samples were analysed involving the determination of 538 constituents. A sum of Rs. 340 was realised as fee on analysis done for the public. In the Geological Laboratory, a number of economic enquiries were received from the public and they were attended to. The Department participated in the Dasara Exhibition of the year. Chemical Laboratory.

737. In the Bellara Gold Mines, the mining work was confined mainly to mining and milling of ore. There was a total stock of 4,351 tons of ore at the end of the year. A quantity of 1,830 tons of ore was treated in the stamp mill. The total stock of the sponge gold at the end of the year was 1,046 8—3 tolas. A weight of 840 tolas, 2 annas and 5 grains was sold realising a sum of Rs. 95,508. Special Schemes

738. Two officers of the Department and four graduates in Geology and one mining student from the Sri Jaya Chamarajendra Occupational Institute received training in topographical survey, underground survey and mining methods including care and use of the explosives and blasting.

(ii) Mines and Explosives.

739. As in the previous years, gold mining operations were carried on in four mines in the Kolar Gold Field, *viz.*, Mysore, Champion Reef, Oorgaum and Nandydroog. The total output of gold and silver was 160,838·049 (180,039·771) ozs. and 11,274·98 (12,796·66) ozs, respectively. The total value realised was £ 3,696,565 (£ 4,077,242). The total demand for the year under royalty on gold and silver was Rs. 25,93,116 (Rs. 16,84,575) inclusive of Rs. 3,60,296 of the previous year. A sum of Rs. 22,41,472 was collected leaving a balance of Rs. 3,51,645. The demand under duty on gold inclusive of the previous year's balance of Rs. 47,92,638 amounted to Rs. 1,43,30,813 and the entire amount was collected.

740. On the recommendation of the Gold Duty Relief Committee, a net relief of Rs. 21,86,000 (Rs. 1,04,97,000) was sanctioned after deducting royalty and tax.

741. The number of persons employed in the Mining industry was 25,904 (25,948). Of these, 24,090 (24,034) Mining Labour.